

Message Text

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71

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 SAM-01 AS-01 /065 W

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P R 092054Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2471

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 0117

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, TW, CS

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM LUIS ALBERTO MONGE ON

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

1. ON JANUARY 6, 1976, AMBASSADOR RECEIVED A HAND-WRITTEN LETTER FROM LUIS ALBERTO MONGE, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE RULING LIBERATION PARTY AND FRONT-RUNNING PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. THE LETTER, WRITTEN WHILE MONGE WAS IN CARACAS VISITING WITH AD LEADERS, EXPLAINS MONGE'S POSITION ON THE TAIWAN GOVERNMENT, AND CRITICIZES THE U.S. POSITION ON THE CHINESE QUESTION. THE LETTER APPEARED TO BE PROMPTED BY MONGE'S INTERVENTION WITH THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF THE TAIWANESE TRADE OFFICE IN CARACAS, AS AN ATTACHED MEMO INDICATED.

2. MONGE'S MAIN POINTS WERE:

(A) HE HAD BELIEVED WESTERN AND COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA ABOUT THE CORRUPTION OF THE TAIWAN GOVERNMENT UNTIL HE VISITED TAIWAN IN 1973 AND WAS AMAZED AT ITS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS.

(B) WORLD IGNORANCE ABOUT THE GREAT ADVANCES

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IN TAIWAN IS INDICATIVE OF THE INCAPACITY AND

"COWARDICE OF US, THE DEMOCRATS...IN DEFENDING A
DEMOCRATIC DESTINY FOR OUR OWN PEOPLE."

(C) U.S. MOVING AWAY FROM TAIWAN AND CLOSER
TO PEKING WILL NOT HELP DETENTE AND WILL ONLY
ENCOURAGE MORE LATIN COUNTRIES TO MOVE TO RELATIONS
WITH PEKING.

(D) ALTHOUGH THE U.S. MAY HAVE MILITARY AND
POLITICAL REASONS FOR GETTING CLOSER TO PEKING,
COSTA RICA DOES NOT AND MONGE WILL INSTEAD HELP THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

2. BECAUSE OF MONGE'S ROLE IN COSTA RICAN POLITICS
AND HIS CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE EMBASSY, WE WOULD
LIKE TO GIVE HIM A CAREFUL AND COMPREHENSIVE POLICY RESPONSE
WHICH STRESSES BOTH THE IMPORTANCE OF DETENTE WITH
MAINLAND CHINA AND OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO TAIWAN.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT
ESPECIALLY ON TAIWAN COMMITMENT.
WE WILL ACKNOWLEDGE LETTER PENDING RECEIPT OF GUIDANCE.

3. TEXT OF LETTER AND ATTACHED MEMO WILL
BE POUCHED.
TODMAN

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Message Attributes

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